

REMSEN CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
REGULAR BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING
OCTOBER 10, 2023

"All Remsen students will Soar to Success"

MINUTES

MEMBERS PRESENT: Mary Lou Allen, Tara Kennerknecht, (Stephanie Karis arrived at 6:07 p.m.), (Patrick Nolan arrived at 6:14 p.m.)

MEMBERS ABSENT: None

OTHERS PRESENT: (Ava Russo: Student Representative) Timothy Jenny, John McKeown, Sanya Pelrah, Gary Winghart, Olivia Woolheater, Kevin Roberts, Kurt Crossett, Kelly Runniger, Carlleen Taylor, Kelly Countryman, Richard Gallo, Rayne Ives, Jamie Lichtenberger, Hank Poczatek, Dale Denning, Gardner Walker, Imagin Aiken.

Meeting called to order by Mary Lou Allen, Board President, at 6:00 p.m.

Pledge of Allegiance recited by all present.

Michael Rossi of West & Company CPAs PC presented the district's audit for the year ended June 30, 2023.

Motion by Tara Kennerknecht, second by Patrick Nolan

"RESOLVED, that the Board of Education approve the FFA overnight Field Trip Request to Camp Oswegatchie from November 17th to November 18th 2023."

Unanimous vote

Mrs. Allen read the following statement: Public Participation - We are about to convene into the public comment period of our meeting. Any district resident wishing to speak during public session is required to sign in, stating your full name, address, contact information and the topic that you wish to discuss. If you have not signed in and you wish to speak, the District Clerk will bring the sign-in sheet over to you at this time. We will insist that all speakers and members of the audience maintain civility and respect. The board will now entertain public comments for up to a maximum of 30 minutes. Each individual speaker will be allotted three minutes. Please be reminded that written comments or concerns to be shared with the Board may also be submitted

or emailed District Clerk, Ms. Olivia Woolheater or to the Superintendent, Mr. Timothy Jenny at any time.

Jamie Litchenberger and Hank Poreteck publically spoke about school concerns

Gardner Walker publically spoke about coaching opportunities

Motion by Stephanie Karis, second by Brian Parent:

“RESOLVED, that the Board of Education approved the minutes from the meeting held on September 12, 2023; and it be further resolved that the Board of Education approve Warrants for Payment; Treasurer’s Report; accept Revenue Status Report; and Appropriation Status Report.”

Unanimous vote

Elementary Principal’s report given by Gary Winghart: See attached

High School Principal’s report given by Sanya Pelrah: See attached

Facilities Report given by Kevin Roberts: See attached

Transportation report given by Kurt Crossett: See attached

Motion by Stephanie Karis, second by Patrick Nolan:

“RESOLVED, that the Board of Education accept recommendations of the Committee on Special Education from meetings held on September 20th, 22nd, 25th, 29th, October 3rd, and October 5th 2023. Please be reminded that discussion of a specific IEP should be referred to Executive Session.”

Unanimous vote

Motion by Tara Kennerknecht, second by Patrick Nolan:

“RESOLVED, that the Board of Education approve the enclosed technology assets for recycling.”

Unanimous vote

Motion by Stephanie Karis, second by Jeannie Scouten:

“RESOLVED, that the Board of Education approve the Memorandum of Agreement between the district and the RTA for the addition of two extracurricular opportunities; the School Store and Diversity Club.”

Unanimous vote

First Read for update to policy 1200

Superintendent’s Regulation for information only: 1200.2

Motion by Jeannie Scouten second by Patrick Nolan:

“RESOLVED, that the Board of Education excise the three door reach in freezer.”

Unanimous vote

Motion by Stephanie Karis, second by Patrick Nolan:

“RESOLVED, that the Board of Education declare a 6 door commercial freezer, 1 milk cooler, 1 cold table, and 2 steam tables as excess items.”

Unanimous vote

Motion by Stephanie Karis, second by Patrick Nolan:

“Resolved that the Board of Education accept the audit report as presented by West & Co, CPAs together with the associated Corrective Action Plan”

Unanimous vote

Motion by Tara Kennerknecht, second by Patrick Nolan:

"RESOLVED, that the Board of Education approve request of Caryn Johnson for medical leave of absence from November 20th to December 1st 2023.”

Unanimous vote

Motion by Jeannie Scouten, second by Stephanie Karis:

"RESOLVED, that the Board of Education appoint Madison Wittwer as a Substitute Teacher effective October 12th, 2023 at the daily rate of \$100.00.”

Unanimous vote

Motion by Tara Kennerknecht, second by Patrick Nolan:

"RESOLVED, that the Board of Education appoint Denise Altamuro as a Substitute Teacher effective October 12th, 2023 at the daily rate of \$140.00.”

Unanimous vote

Motion by Stephanie Karis, second by Tara Kennerknecht:

"RESOLVED, that the Board of Education appoint Hayleigh Lagase as a Substitute Teacher effective October 12th, 2023 at the daily rate of \$100.00, pending fingerprint clearance.”

Unanimous vote

Motion by Jeannie Scouten, second by Patrick Nolan:

"RESOLVED, that the Board of Education appoint Tammy Andre as a Substitute Teacher effective October 12th, 2023 at the daily rate of \$100.00.”

Unanimous vote

Motion by Stephanie Karis, second by Jeannie Scouten:

"RESOLVED, that the Board of Education appoint Elizabeth Bellinger as the scorekeeper for the varsity volleyball team for the 2023-2024 season."

Unanimous vote

Motion by Tara Kennerknecht, second by Patrick Nolan:

"RESOLVED, that the Board of Education appoint Megan Spadaro as an unpaid volunteer coach for the modified volleyball team for the 2023-2024 season."

Unanimous vote

Motion by Tara Kennerknecht, second by Stephanie Karis:

"RESOLVED, that the Board of Education appoint Jared Williams as the volunteer assistant coach for the J.V and Varsity Volleyball teams for the 2023-2024 season."

Unanimous vote

Information and Correspondence given to the Board included the following:

- Board Appreciation Week: Timothy Jenny gave all of the Board members a treat and a certificate for Board Appreciation Week and thanked all of the members for their dedication.

Soaring to Success – Board of Education Roundtable Remarks

Board members reflected on and shared their thoughts about activities and events that occurred over the past month:

Mrs. Tara Kennerknecht: Mrs. Kennerknecht thanked the principals for their positive interactions with all of the students and stated she was humbled to see all of the great opportunities.

Mrs. Stephanie Karis: Mrs. Karis commented on how the school has a great group of leaders and administrators. Mrs. Karis also thanked Mrs. Rayne Ives for providing opportunities for students.

Mrs. Mary Lou Allen: Mrs. Allen thanked Carleen Taylor for providing a diversity group for students. Mrs. Allen also thanked Emily Laurey and John Bunker for all they did at the Barn Fest to support their student booths. Lastly, Mrs. Allen also thanked the Sports Boosters for all that they do and provide for the student athletes.

Mr. Timothy Jenny: Mr. Jenny gave high fives to Deborah Geci and John McKeown for all of their work preparing the audit. Mr. Jenny then welcomed Ava Russo the student council representative. Lastly, Mr. Jenny thanked Gary for his work in getting the after school program back up and running.

Motion by Stephanie Karis, second by Jeannie Scouten to enter executive session at 7:01 p.m. for the medical, financial, or employment history of a particular person or corporation, or matters leading to the appointment, employment, promotion, demotion, discipline, suspension, dismissal, or removal of a particular person or corporation.

Motion by Stephanie Karis, second by Tara Kennerknecht to return to regular session at 7:56 p.m.

Motion by Jeannie Scouten, second by Stephanie Karis to adjourn regular session at 7:57 p.m.

Elementary Report

Remsen Elementary October Update



Remsen CSD Goals

- Ensure each child has the opportunity to reach his or her full potential in a global society.
- Hire, support, develop and retain high quality staff.
- Develop, maintain and improve resources within a fiscally sound and responsible budget.
- Improve the transparency and communication with the district and community.

Upcoming Events

- October 6 - Superintendent's Conference Day
- October 9 - Columbus Day (No School)
- October 10 - Start of Young Rams After School Program
- October 10-13 - Elementary Spirit Week
- October 11 - Urica Comets Cool to be Kind Assembly (gr 4-5)
- October 25 - Elementary Family Night (5:00 PM)
- October 27 - PTG Fall Fun Fest
- October 31 - Parade of Costumes (1:00 PM)



Remsen Elementary School

Speedy
PD

"making the time to grow together"

It can be very difficult at times to find the time to get together for professional development. In the Elementary we have started what we are calling "speedy pd". Our Speedy PD sessions are quick sessions on topics that staff have asked for. These sessions are being provided in the brief period of time after students are dismissed before staff leave for the school day. The sessions are planned by our staff for our staff with Ms. Martin playing a major role in planning and coordinating these sessions.

ENC 5.1

Cool to Be Kind

On Wednesday, October 11th, members of the Utica Comets Hockey team will be visiting Remsen to speak with our students in grades 4-6. The topic of their presentation will be kindness. The players will speak to students, answer questions, and sign autographs for students.



Remsen Elementary School Fall Spirit Week

October 10 - October 13, 2023

Monday October 9	Tuesday October 10	Wednesday October 11	Thursday October 12	Friday October 13
Columbus Day	Hat Day	Sports Day	Color Day	Orange and Black Day
No School	Wear your favorite hat to school	Wear your favorite sports Jersey or athletic wear	Wear your grade/class color <small>(Colors listed on the back)</small>	Wear your Remsen Orange and Black



YOUNG RAMS

Extended School Day Programs

Young Rams Update

Our Young Rams After School Program will begin on Tuesday, October 10th. We have a great team of staff that are now ready to get the program started. We currently have 50 students registered for the program. We will be splitting students into three groups by grade level (Pre-K - K, Grades 1-3, Grades 4-6). Students will have time to complete school work, engage in enrichment activities, enjoy snack and recess time with their friends. A 4:00 PM late bus will be provided for students that require transportation.

Remsen Elementary School

Elementary Family Nights



We are planning to host three elementary family nights this school year. The first is scheduled for Wednesday, October 25th. This year, we will be partnering with Cornell Cooperative Extension. Cornell will be providing some of the programming, activities for families, as well as a meal for those who attend. Some of the topics that we plan to cover include Internet and social media safety, helping with homework and other strategies for helping at home, and self-regulation and calming strategies.

Around the School

Assessments and Routines

Much of the first month of school is used to establish classroom and school-wide routines and procedures. This requires a good deal of repetition and reminders, but is very important in laying the foundation for the remainder of the school year. There are also universal assessments (reading records, DIBELS, math fluency, etc.) that are given to all students at each grade level in order to determine students' academic ability in reading, writing and math. This information is used to make instructional decisions about reading groups, need for intervention, and more.

The Halls are Alive with the Sound of Music

Ms. Dornburgh has already got our halls filled with music each day whether it is the sound of the Boom Whackers during general music or the sound of our Elementary Band, you can hear music coming from the music room. On September 20th, Ms. Dornburgh held our annual band recruitment night. We had an excellent turn out of students and families. These students have already begun taking lessons and by mid year will be playing together in the beginner band and will be ready to perform at elementary concerts.





Remsen Central School
Jr./Sr. High School Update
Sanya Pelrah, Principal
10/10/23

Team Workshop

October Team Workshop was focused on curriculum mapping. Staff had time to collaborate with their peers on this district-wide initiative. We also began our positivity blast where staff sends personalized notes to students acknowledging and appreciating them.

Instructional Focus

The Instructional Committee is scheduled to meet on October 12. As I did last year, I will ask for their input and feedback regarding plans for future Team Workshops and other instructional opportunities.

Culture and Climate

- The Culture and Climate Committee met on September 27 to discuss how we can continue to improve upon experiences from last year. We will be working with Student Council to add an opportunity for giving which will start at our annual Thanksgiving Breakfast. We are also collecting donations for the Ram Ticket program to recognize and reward our students for positive behaviors such as kindness, perseverance, and other small wins. We will be meeting again this month to plan for upcoming events.
- For the third year, I enjoyed treating all of the seniors to the Remsen Corn Maze. We participated on October 5. It was a beautiful day and a great time.

- Clubs and Activities
 - The 12th grade class raised \$2300 at Barn Fest. They are in the final stages of drafting the plan for their class trip. They have also held class elections and enjoyed a hiking field trip.
 - The 11th grade class participated in Barn Fest as their fundraiser and are working on planning future events.
 - The 10th grade class is in the process of electing officers and are discussing hosting a Valentine's Dance this year.
 - Diversity Club - They will be participating in Elevating Student Voices. The summit's focus is to give students a voice in their community and create collaboration with diverse students within the OHM BOCES District. Student facilitators will attend a workshop at BOCES on Oct. 25 to be trained on facilitating discussions with their peers. Diversity Club facilitators will be Isabella Colon and Cali Rios. Currently, 7 other districts are participating in Elevating Students Voices. Mrs. Taylor attended the advisors' planning meeting on Sept. 19 and will accompany Diversity Club members in grades 9 - 12 to the workshops and attend the pre-workshop virtual meetings. The summit will have 4 workshops for students and the advisor and 4 virtual pre-workshop meetings for the advisor. After completing the workshops, there will be an all-day youth summit on May 24, where students will share what they learned with stakeholders in the community.
 - Drama Club - They have set the cast for *A Christmas Carol* and rehearsals have begun. They are also discussing fundraising opportunities.

ENC 5.2

- FFA - They completed the Barn Fest set up and clean up, visited Lowville CSD for the NY FFA State Officer tour, elected officers, and are planning their fruit sale and Remsen in Box fundraisers.
- National Honor Society - They have met and are in the planning stages for a charitable organization donation collection later in the fall.
- Mathletics - They are preparing for their first competition which will be on October 14.
- International Club - They have elected officers, discussed activities and fundraisers, and are planning a trip proposal.
- Student Council - They have planned spirit week, the activities for our pep rally, and are preparing for the Fall Ball on November 3. They have also elected their officers.
- Yearbook - The yearbook is coming along nicely. They have three photographers and numerous students excited to create this year's yearbook. Seniors are seeking funding for the yearbook by selling ads to local businesses. If you or someone you know wants to purchase an ad in the yearbook, please get in touch with a senior or Mrs. Taylor.

Senior Fun

September 29 - Field Trip to Black Bear Mountain Trail



October 5 - Corn Maze



Dale Dening
Athletic Director's Report



Section III October 2023



RAMS ATHLETICS

Important Dates

October 2 - Girls Varsity Soccer (Senior Night)
October 5 - Boys Varsity Soccer (Senior Night)
October 7, 8 - BVS @ Poland Tournament
October 15 - Seeding Meeting for Boys/Girls Soccer
October 21 - Center State Championships - Cross Country @ Mt. Markham
October 30 - Modified Volleyball Begins

Fall Sports

Cross Country Home Meet - September 20th (Senior Recognition)
Congratulations to Leila Ward, Paul Montegari, and Alivia Hopsicker (TOW)
-Ean Piaschyk broke our course record which was held previously by Mike Roberts

Senior Nights for Soccer

BVS - October 2nd vs. Adirondack (Colby Aiello, Ben Becker, Zach Helmer, Malik Pett, Jaden Prosser, Brian Secor)
GVS - October 5th vs. Hamilton (Imagin Aiken, Isabella Lalyer, Tayler Nelson)

New Equipment

New soccer benches were delivered 2 weeks ago and are currently being used on the varsity soccer field!

ENC5.3



-Seeding for boys/girls varsity soccer will be based on the Bradley Terry Model which was developed by a student at Syracuse University. Seeding is no longer determined on your win/loss record but also on the strength of schedule and how your opponents have fared during the regular season.

Pink Out Nights - Remsen Sports Boosters are sponsoring 4 separate pink out nights to support the fight against cancer in honor of October being Breast Cancer Awareness month. The dates are October 2nd (GMS), October 5th (GVS), October 10th (BVS) and October 16th (BMS). Shirts (jerseys) were purchased by the booster club and designed by Sandy Doolen (Roberts) for all teams. A 50/50 raffle will be held each night and proceeds will go towards the American Cancer Society.

Winter Sports

Coaching Position Open - Remsen has advertised for a boys JV basketball coach for this winter season

Wrestling - we have had a couple of students interested in wrestling this winter for Holland Patent. In speaking with their current AD, there is no interest in a combination this year but may be considered for next season.

Winter Coaches

Boys Varsity Basketball - Jim Wilder

Boys JV Basketball - **Open**

Varsity Volleyball - Amy Piaskchyk

JV Volleyball - Sarah Helmer

Modified Volleyball - Erika Kistowski

Boys Modified Basketball - **Not Appointed Yet**

-Letters of Intent - Elizabeth Bellinger (Volleyball Scorekeeper) and Meghan Spadaro (Mod Volleyball assistant coach)

-Winter Sports Sign Ups - will be taking place during the week of October 10 - October 13 in all PE classes.





REMSEN CENTRAL

SCHOOL DISTRICT

FACILITIES REPORT

10/10/2023 BOE Meeting

2023 Capital Outlay Project

New Elementary Lockers. Majority of final inspection punch list completed. Contractor scheduled to be onsite Friday 10/6 to hopefully complete the remainder of the punchlist

2024 Capital Outlay Project

Scope of work involves security measures including lockdown blue lights, 911 dialers, and adding remaining exterior doors to the doors ajar program. Day Automation will head up this job and will not require bidding as these services are already on NYS Contract. Project has been approved by SED. We had a Construction Kick-Off meeting on September 13th. Updated some items on drawings and received the new drawings last week.

ENC 5.4

Next Capital Improvement Project:

Scope of work has been completed to fit our financial goals. Approx. \$9.9 million project. Facilities Committee met on 9/28 to discuss timeline to proceed. Looking at a December 5th vote with construction to begin in the spring of 2025. We are starting the process to secure a Construction Management Firm and onsite rep at this time.

Lead In Drinking Water Testing:

No new updates.....The NYSDOH has lowered the threshold for lead in applicable water outlets from 15ppm to 5 ppm. This new round of testing must be completed between 1/1/2023 to 12/31/2025. All of the data and necessary information have been collected from all of the participating BOCES component school districts. The next step is where CiTi BOCES will be putting this information out to the public for bid. Once they have a date of when the bid is awarded and who it is awarded to, they will provide that information to us so that scheduling of testing can begin in the fall 2023.

Easter Sunday 2023 Power Brownout:

We are still experiencing fallout from the power grid brownout on Easter Sunday last spring. The latest breakdown being a motor on a boiler recirculating pump at the elementary building. Motor was specifically built for this application and is not feasible to have the factory build a special motor. Working with Schmaltz Mechanical Co. to retrofit a whole new updated pump assembly, which will be more cost effective and more efficient

General Updates

We are still struggling to keep pace with the work load. Groundsworker Craig Gallant and Cleaner Lisa Gregory still out with injuries. Have Joe Griswold out on grounds with retiree Dave Buhite covering high school building as much as he can. Barney Sweeney also helping on grounds when his bus schedule allows. Eugene Doerr was hired as a sub cleaner and is filling in for Lisa Gregory at the elementary as much as possible.

Building maintenance work list is getting longer and longer and we can't keep up with scheduled

preventative maintenance tasks at this time. Setting priorities and doing the best we can.



Olivia Woolheater <owoolheater@remsenbsd.org>

October Board Meeting

Wed, Oct 4, 2023 at 9:59 AM

Kurt Crossett <kcrossett@remsenbsd.org>
To: Olivia Woolheater <owoolheater@remsenbsd.org>

October 12 or 13 will be the next DOT inspection of bus 94,96,99,11,and 15. We are currently getting quotes for new busses. Bus 10 will be heading to RC Enterprises on the 10th for body work. We have received several phone calls about bus driver positions after people have seen the banners around town.

Kurt Crossett

Bus Dispatcher

Remsen Central School

315-205-4300 Ext 6000

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